PROTEST!

Meath, Adelaide & Childrens Hospitals to Close....

SAVE OUR HOSPITALS

STOP THE CLOSURES

ASSEMBLE:

3pm Saturday 20th June
Outside Meath Hospital

Organised by the Save Our Hospitals Campaign

Meath, Adelaide & Harcourt St Childrens Hospitals:
STOP THE CLOSURES

WE MUST protest against the closure of the Meath, Adelaide and Harcourt St Childrens Hospitals. It is sheer madness to leave the South Inner City without a hospital. The claim that the new Tallaght Hospital can serve this area is nonsense. There will be a hundred less beds in the new hospital than in the Meath, Adelaide and the Childrens hospital covering an area twice as large.

Travel to Tallaght will simply be impossible for many, particularly the elderly. To make things worse, statements from consultants and staff at the new hospital suggest that Tallaght is totally unprepared for the opening date of June 21st. Staff shortages mean that only four of the hospitals twelve theatres could be used when it opens.

Any idea that St James can take up the slack from the closed hospitals is also false. St James is already overcrowded with long waiting lists for operations and a completely inadequate Accident and Emergency service. It also has no specialised children's unit.

The closure of the three hospitals represents a cut in the overall health services available in Dublin and will hit the South inner city particularly badly. This comes at a time when the number of people waiting over a year for general surgical operations has increased by 50%. There are currently over 32,000 people on public hospital waiting lists around the country.

With the so-called boom in this country we should be seeing an increase in health services not cutbacks. It seems unless you're a big buinessman with £30,000 to give to a goverment minister you don't see the benefits of the Celtic Tiger.

Its not too late.

The transfer to Tallaght has already run into problems. This gives us a chance to mount a serious campaign to prevent the closure of the hospitals. Even if the closure goes ahead the problems will only have begun. Polite lobbying of TD's and government has failed. But a campaign of active protest can force the politicians to listen. Recently, in Portlaoise a march of 5000 people prevented major cuts in sevices at the local Hospital. We can do the same.

The Save Our Hospitals Campaign has been set up to mount such a campaign. We appeal to everyone to get active and join the protest this Satuday June 20th at 3pm outside the Meath Hospital.

PROTEST

Assemble 3pm, Saturday June 20th, Outside Meath Hospital.

Organised by the Save Our Hospitals Campaign.